

Commission in accordance with § 1.2107(b) of this chapter and §§ 24.711(a)(2) and 24.716(a)(2).

(c) Each eligible bidder for licenses on frequency Blocks D and E subject to auction shall pay an upfront payment of \$0.06 per MHz per pop for the maximum number of licenses (in terms of MHz-pops) on which it intends to bid pursuant to § 1.2106 of this chapter and procedures specified by Public Notice.

[61 FR 33868, July 1, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, § 24.706 was amended by revising paragraph (a), effective Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

**§ 24.706 Submission of upfront payments and down payments.**

(a) Where the Commission uses simultaneous multiple round auctions or oral sequential auctions, bidders will be required to submit an upfront payment in accordance with § 1.2106 of this chapter, paragraph (c) of this section, and §§ 24.711(a)(1) and 24.716(a)(1).

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**§ 24.707 Long-form applications.**

Each winning bidder will be required to submit a long-form application on FCC Form 600, as modified, within ten (10) business days after being notified that it is the winning bidder. Applications on FCC Form 600 shall be submitted pursuant to the procedures set forth in subpart I of this part and § 1.2107 (c) and (d) of this chapter and any associated Public Notices. Only auction winners will be eligible to file applications on FCC Form 600 for initial broadband PCS licenses in the event of mutual exclusivity between applicants filing Form 175. Winning bidders need not complete Schedule B to Form 600.

[59 FR 37604, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994; 62 FR 660, Jan. 6, 1997]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, § 24.707 was removed, effective Nov. 23, 1998.

**§ 24.708 License grant, denial, default, and disqualification.**

(a) Except with respect to entities eligible for installment payments (see

§ 24.711), each winning bidder will be required to pay the balance of its winning bid in a lump sum payment within five (5) business days following the award of the license. Grant of the license will be conditioned upon full and timely payment of the winning bid amount.

(b) A bidder who withdraws its bid subsequent to the close of bidding, defaults on a payment due or is disqualified will be subject to the penalties specified in § 1.2109 of this chapter.

**§ 24.709 Eligibility for licenses for frequency Blocks C and F.**

(a) *General Rule.* (1) No application is acceptable for filing and no license shall be granted for frequency block C or frequency block F, unless the applicant, together with its *affiliates* and persons or entities that hold interests in the applicant and their *affiliates*, have *gross revenues* of less than \$125 million in each of the last two years and *total assets* of less than \$500 million at the time the applicant's short-form application (Form 175) is filed.

(2) The *gross revenues* and *total assets* of the applicant (or licensee), and its *affiliates*, and (except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section) of persons or entities that hold interests in the applicant (or licensee), and their *affiliates*, shall be attributed to the applicant and considered on a cumulative basis and aggregated for purposes of determining whether the applicant (or licensee) is eligible for a license for frequency block C or frequency block F under this section.

(3) Any licensee awarded a license pursuant to this section (or pursuant to § 24.839(d)(2)) shall maintain its eligibility until at least five years from the date of initial license grant, except that a licensee's (or other attributable entity's) increased *gross revenues* or increased *total assets* due to *nonattributable equity* investments (i.e., from sources whose *gross revenues* and *total assets* are not considered under paragraph (b) of this section), debt financing, revenue from operations or other investments, business development or expanded service shall not be considered.

(4) In order to be eligible for participation in a C block auction, an applicant must certify that it is not in default on any Commission licenses and that it is not delinquent on any non-tax debt owed to any Federal agency. See § 24.706 of this part.

(5) An applicant for participation in a C block auction must state under penalty of perjury whether or not it has ever been in default on any Commission licenses or has ever been delinquent on any non-tax debt owed to any Federal agency. See § 24.706 of this part.

(b) *Exceptions to General Rule.* (1) *Small Business Consortia.* Where an applicant (or licensee) is a *consortium of small businesses*, the *gross revenues* and *total assets* of each small business shall not be aggregated.

(2) *Publicly-Traded Corporations.* Where an applicant (or licensee) is a *publicly traded corporation with widely dispersed voting power*, the *gross revenues* and *total assets* of a person or entity that holds an interest in the applicant (or licensee), and its *affiliates*, shall not be considered.

(3) *25 Percent Equity Exception.* The *gross revenues* and *total assets* of a person or entity that holds an interest in the applicant (or licensee), and its *affiliates*, shall not be considered so long as:

(i) Such person or entity, together with its *affiliates*, holds only *nonattributable equity* equaling no more than 25 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity;

(ii) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(5) of this section, such person or entity is not a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group*; and

(iii) The applicant (or licensee) has a *control group* that complies with the minimum equity requirements of paragraph (b)(5) of this section, and, if the applicant (or licensee) is a corporation, owns at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) voting interests, and, if the applicant (or licensee) is a partnership, holds all of its general partnership interests.

(4) *49.9 Percent Equity Exception.* The *gross revenues* and *total assets* of a person or entity that holds an interest in the applicant (or licensee), and its *affiliates*, shall not be considered so long as:

(i) Such person or entity, together with its *affiliates*, holds only *nonattributable equity* equaling no more than 49.9 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity;

(ii) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(6) of this section, such person or entity is not a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group*; and

(iii) The applicant (or licensee) has a *control group* that complies with the minimum equity requirements of paragraph (b)(6) of this section and, if the applicant (or licensee) is a corporation, owns at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) voting interests, and, if the applicant (or licensee) is a partnership, holds all of its general partnership interests.

(5) *Control Group Minimum 25 Percent Equity Requirement.* In order to be eligible to exclude *gross revenues* and *total assets* of persons or entities identified in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, and applicant (or licensee) must comply with the following requirements:

(i) Except for an applicant (or licensee) whose sole control group member is a *preexisting entity*, as provided in paragraph (b)(5)(ii) of this section, at the time the applicant's short-form application (Form 175) is filed and until at least three years following the date of initial license grant, the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group* must own at least 25 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity as follows:

(A) At least 15 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held by *qualifying investors*, either unconditionally or in the form of options exercisable, at the option of the holder, at any time and at any exercise price equal to or less than the market value at the time the applicant files its short-form application (Form 175);

(B) Such *qualifying investors* must hold 50.1 percent of the voting stock and all general partnership interests within the control group, and must have *de facto* control of the control group and of the applicant;

(C) The remaining 10 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity may be owned, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options, by any of the following entities, which may not comply with § 24.720(n)(1):

(1) *Institutional Investors*;

(2) Noncontrolling *existing investors* in any *preexisting entity* that is a member of the *control group*;

(3) Individuals that are members of the applicant's (or licensee's) management; or

(4) *Qualifying investors*, as specified in § 24.720(n)(4).

(D) Following termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(5)(i) of this section, *qualifying investors* must continue to own at least 10 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options subject to the restrictions in paragraph (b)(5)(i)(A) of this section. The restrictions specified in paragraph (b)(5)(i)(C)(1) through (4) of this section no longer apply to the remaining equity after termination of such three-year period.

(ii) At the election of an applicant (or licensee) whose *control group's* sole member is a *preexisting entity*, the 25 percent minimum equity requirements set forth in paragraph (b)(5)(i) of this section shall apply, except that only 10 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held by *qualifying investors* and that the remaining 15 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity may be held by *qualifying investors* or noncontrolling *existing investors* in such *control group* member or individuals that are members of the applicant's (or licensee's) management. These restrictions on the identity of the holder(s) of the remaining 15 percent of the licensee's total equity no longer apply after termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(5)(i) of this section.

(6) *Control Group Minimum 50.1 Percent Equity Requirement.* In order to be eligible to exclude *gross revenues* and *total assets* of persons or entities identified in paragraph (b)(4) of this section, an applicant (or licensee) must comply with the following requirements:

(i) Except for an applicant (or licensee) whose sole control group member is a *preexisting entity*, as provided in paragraph (b)(6)(ii) of this section, at the time the applicant's short-form application (Form 175) is filed and until at least three years following the date of initial license grant, the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group* must own

at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity as follows:

(A) At least 30 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held by *qualifying investors*, either unconditionally or in the form of options, exercisable at the option of the holder, at any time and at any exercise price equal to or less than the market value at the time the applicant files its short-form application (Form 175);

(B) Such *qualifying investors* must hold 50.1 percent of the voting stock and all general partnership interests within the control group and must have *de facto* control of the control group and of the applicant;

(C) The remaining 20.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity may be owned by *qualifying investors*, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options not subject to the restrictions of paragraph (b)(6)(i)(A) of this section, or by any of the following entities which may not comply with § 24.720(n)(1):

(1) *Institutional investors*, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options;

(2) Noncontrolling *existing investors* in any *preexisting entity* that is a member of the *control group*, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options;

(3) Individuals that are members of the applicant's (or licensee's) management, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options; or

(4) *Qualifying investors*, as specified in § 24.720(n)(4).

(D) Following termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this section, *qualifying investors* must continue to own at least 20 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity unconditionally or in the form of stock options subject to the restrictions in paragraph (b)(6)(i)(A) of this section. The restrictions specified in paragraph (b)(6)(i)(C)(1) through (4) of this section no longer apply to the remaining equity after termination of such three-year period.

(ii) At the election of an applicant (or licensee) whose *control group's* sole member is a *preexisting entity*, the 50.1 percent minimum equity requirements set forth in paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this

section shall apply, except that only 20 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held by *qualifying investors*, and that the remaining 30.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity may be held by *qualifying investors*, or noncontrolling *existing investors* in such *control group* member or individuals that are members of the applicant's (or licensee's) management. These restrictions on the identity of the holder(s) of the remaining 30.1 percent of the licensee's total equity no longer apply after termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this section.

(7) *Calculation of Certain Interests.* Except as provided in paragraphs (b)(5) and (b)(6) of this section, ownership interests shall be calculated on a fully diluted basis; all agreements such as warrants, stock options and convertible debentures will generally be treated as if the rights thereunder already have been fully exercised, except that such agreements may not be used to appear to terminate or divest ownership interests before they actually do so, in order to comply with the *non-attributable equity* requirements in paragraphs (b)(3)(i) and (b)(4)(i) of this section.

(8) *Aggregation of Affiliate Interests.* Persons or entities that hold interest in an applicant (or licensee) that are *affiliates* of each other or have an identify of interests identified in §24.720(1)(3) will be treated as though they were one person or entity and their ownership interests aggregated for purposes of determining an applicant's (or licensee's) compliance with the *nonattributable equity* requirements in paragraphs (b)(3)(i) and (b)(4)(i) of this section.

*Example 1 for paragraph (b)(8).* ABC Corp. is owned by individuals, A, B, and C, each having an equal one-third voting interest in ABC Corp. A and B together, with two-thirds of the stock have the power to control ABC Corp. and have an identity of interest. If A & B invest in DE Corp., a broadband PCS applicant for block C, A and B's separate interests in DE Corp. must be aggregated because A and B are to be treated as one person.

*Example 2 for paragraph (b)(8).* ABC Corp. has subsidiary BC Corp., of which it holds a controlling 51 percent of the stock. If ABC Corp. and BC Corp., both invest in DE Corp.,

their separate interests in DE Corp. must be aggregated because ABC Corp. and BC Corp. are affiliates of each other.

(9) *Special rule for licensees disaggregating or returning certain spectrum in frequency block C.*

(i) In addition to entities qualifying under this section, any entity that was eligible for and participated in the auction for frequency block C, which began on December 18, 1995, or the reauction for frequency block C, which began on July 3, 1996, will be eligible to bid in any reauction of block C spectrum that begins within two years of the start date of the first reauction of C block spectrum following the effective date of this rule.

(ii) The following restrictions will apply for any reauction of frequency block C spectrum conducted after March 24, 1998:

(A) Applicants that elected to disaggregate and surrender to the Commission 15 MHz of spectrum from any or all of their frequency block C licenses, as provided in Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Installment Payment Financing for Personal Communications Services (PCS) Licensees, Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, WT Docket No. 97-82, 12 FCC Rcd 16,436 (1997), as modified by the Order on Reconsideration of the Second Report and Order, WT Docket No. 97-82, FCC 98-46 (rel. Mar. 24, 1998), will not be eligible to apply for such disaggregated spectrum until 2 years from the start of the reauction of that spectrum.

(B) Applicants that surrendered to the Commission any of their frequency block C licenses, as provided in Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Installment Payment Financing for Personal Communications Services (PCS) Licensees, Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, WT Docket No. 97-82, 12 FCC Rcd 16,436 (1997), as modified by the Order on Reconsideration of the Second Report and Order, WT Docket No. 97-82, FCC 98-46 (rel. Mar. 24, 1998), will not be eligible to apply for the licenses that they surrendered to the Commission until 2 years from the start of the reauction of those licenses if they elected to apply a credit of 70%

of the down payment they made on those licenses toward the prepayment of licenses they did not surrender.

(c) *Short-Form and Long-Form Applications: Certifications and Disclosure.* (1) *Short-form Application.* In addition to certifications and disclosures required by Part 1, subpart Q of this chapter and §24.813, each applicant for a license for frequency block C or frequency block F shall certify on its short-form application (Form 175) that it is eligible to bid on and obtain such license(s), and (if applicable) that it is eligible for designated entity status pursuant to this section and §24.720, and shall append the following information as an exhibit to its Form 175:

(i) For an applicant that is a *publicly traded corporation with widely disbursed voting power*:

(A) A certified statement that such applicant complies with the requirements of the definition of *publicly traded corporation with widely disbursed voting power* set forth in §24.720(m);

(B) The identify of each *affiliate* of the applicant if not disclosed pursuant to §24.813; and

(C) The applicant's *gross revenues* and *total assets*, computed in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(ii) For all other applicants:

(A) The identity of each member of the applicant's *control group*, regardless of the size of each member's total interest in the applicant, and the percentage and type of interest held;

(B) The citizenship and the gender or minority group classification for each member of the applicant's *control group* if the applicant is claiming status as a *business owned by members of minority groups and/or women*;

(C) The status of each *control group* member that is an *institutional investor*, an *existing investor*, and/or a member of the applicant's management;

(D) The identify of each *affiliate* of the applicant and each *affiliate* of individuals or entities identified pursuant to paragraphs (c)(1)(ii)(A) and (c)(1)(ii)(C) of this section if not disclosed pursuant to §24.813;

(E) A certification that the applicant's sole *control group* member is a *preexisting entity*, if the applicant

makes the election in either paragraph (b)(5)(ii) or (b)(6)(ii) of this section; and

(F) The applicant's *gross revenues* and *total assets*, computed in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(iii) For each applicant claiming status as a *small business consortium*, the information specified in paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section, for each member of such consortium.

(2) *Long-form Application.* In addition to the requirements in subpart I of this part and other applicable rules (e.g., §§20.6(e) and 20.9(b) of this chapter), each applicant submitting a long-form application for a license(s) for frequency block C or frequency block F shall, in an exhibit to its long-form application:

(i) Disclose separately and in the aggregate the *gross revenues* and *total assets*, computed in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, for each of the following: the applicant; the applicant's *affiliates*, the applicant's *control group* members; the applicant's attributable investors; and *affiliates* of its attributable investors;

(ii) List and summarize all agreements or other instruments (with appropriate references to specific provisions in the text of such agreements and instruments) that support the applicant's eligibility for a license(s) for frequency block C or frequency block F and its eligibility under §§24.711, 24.712, 24.714 and 24.720, including the establishment of *de facto* and *de jure* control; such agreements and instruments include articles of incorporation and bylaws, shareholder agreements, voting or other trust agreements, partnership agreements, management agreements, joint marketing agreements, franchise agreements, and any other relevant agreements (including letters of intent), oral or written; and

(iii) List and summarize any investor protection agreements and identify specifically any such provisions in those agreements identified pursuant to paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section, including rights of first refusal, supermajority clauses, options, veto rights, and rights to hire and fire employees and to appoint members to boards of directors or management committees.

(3) *Records Maintenance.* All applicants, including those that are winning bidders, shall maintain at their principal place of business an updated file of ownership, revenue and asset information, including those documents referenced in paragraphs (c)(2)(ii) and (c)(2)(iii) of this section and any other documents necessary to establish eligibility under this section or under the definitions of *small business and/or business owned by members of minority groups and/or women*. Licensees (and their successors in interest) shall maintain such files for the term of the license. Applicants that do not obtain the license(s) for which they applied shall maintain such files until the grant of such license(s) is final, or one year from the date of the filing of their short-form application (Form 175), whichever is earlier.

(d) *Audits.* (1) Applicants and licensees claiming eligibility under this section or §§24.711 through 24.720 shall be subject to audits by the Commission, using in-house and contract resources. Selection for audit may be random, on information, or on the basis of other factors.

(2) Consent to such audits is part of the certification included in the short-form application (Form 175). Such consent shall include consent to the audit of the applicant's or licensee's books, documents and other material (including accounting procedures and practices) regardless of form or type, sufficient to confirm that such applicant's or licensee's representations are, and remain, accurate. Such consent shall include inspection at all reasonable times of the facilities, or parts thereof, engaged in providing and transacting business, or keeping records regarding licensed broadband PCS service and shall also include consent to the interview of principals, employees, customers and suppliers of the applicant or licensee.

(e) *Definitions.* The terms *affiliate, business owned by members of minority groups and/or women*, and *gross revenues* used in this section are defined in §1.2110 of this chapter. The terms *consortium of small businesses, control group, existing investor, institutional investor, nonattributable equity, preexisting entity, publicly traded corporation with widely*

*dispersed voting power, qualifying investor, small business, and total assets* used in this section are defined in §24.720 of this chapter.

[59 FR 63232, Dec. 7, 1994; 60 FR 5335, Jan. 27, 1995, as amended at 60 FR 37795, July 21, 1995; 61 FR 33868, July 1, 1996; 63 FR 17122, Apr. 8, 1998; 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.709 was amended by adding paragraphs (a)(4) and (a)(5) and by revising paragraphs (b)(9)(i) and (e), effective Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

**§24.709 Eligibility for licenses for frequency Blocks C and F.**

(b) \* \* \*

(9) \* \* \*(i) In addition to entities qualifying under this section, any entity that was eligible for and participated in the auctions for frequency block C, which began on December 18, 1995, and July 3, 1996, will be eligible to bid in a reauction of block C spectrum surrendered pursuant to Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Installment Payment Financing for Personal Communications Services (PCS) Licensees, Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, WT Docket No. 97-82, 12 FCC Rcd 16,436 (1997), as modified by the Order on Reconsideration of the Second Report and Order, WT Docket No. 97-82, FCC 98-46 (rel. Mar. 24, 1998).

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) *Definitions.* The terms *affiliate, business owned by members of minority groups and women, consortium of small businesses, control group, existing investor, gross revenues, institutional investor, members of minority groups, nonattributable equity, preexisting entity, publicly traded corporation with widely dispersed voting power, qualifying investor, small business and total assets* used in this section are defined in §24.720.

**§24.710 Limitation on licenses won at auction for frequency Blocks C and F.**

(a) No applicant may be deemed the winning bidder of more than 98 of the licenses available for frequency Blocks C and F. Any applicant who is the high bidder for more than 98 of the licenses available for frequency Blocks C and F shall be required to withdraw its bid(s) for a sufficient number of licenses to achieve compliance with this section